

**New Roads Connect Communities**  
**Council President Scott Peters, First District**  
**For the Corridor News, July 2007**

When voters approved Propositions K and M in 1998, they created an opportunity to plan communities in a holistic way, and to learn from the planning missteps of the past. When designing the new communities along State Route 56, great care was taken to create neighborhood parks and shopping facilities, walking and bike paths, and a series of interconnected roads.

Today, we are one step closer to completing the network of roads serving North City West. The City recently completed a two-mile section of Carmel Valley Road between Black Mountain Road and Bernardo Center Drive. This new road serves the communities of Del Sur, Santaluz, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Highlands and 4S Ranch, allowing residents easier access to Interstates 5 and 15 and State Route 56, and create alternative neighborhood routes.

This vital link was originally scheduled to be complete in 2012. I agreed with community members that the project deserved a higher priority, and began working with City staff and our community partners to speed up the project timeline.

The Carmel Valley Road extension project includes new landscaping, including Jacaranda, California Sycamore and Coast Live Oak trees, and connects the bicycle lanes on either side of the road extension.

Another significant element of the project is the installation of a stoplight at Black Mountain Ranch Community Park. While the initial park and road plans included a stoplight, that element was removed due to a funding shortfall. When residents came to me with concerns about excessive speed and the need for safe access to the park, as well as the required 3-mile U-turn created by the lack of a stoplight, I worked to find a solution.

Black Mountain Ranch LLC, the developer of Del Sur and Santaluz, stepped up and paid for the acquisition and installation of a stoplight to serve the park in exchange for Facilities Benefit Assessment credits. With the light in place and operational, city staff opened Carmel Valley Road during the last week of June.

Another major road project recently completed is the four-mile extension of Camino del Sur to Camino del Norte, creating a new route for residents of Del Sur and Santaluz.

The project features sidewalks, bike lanes and two trailheads allowing access to the regional trail network. Both road segments features bridges which span wildlife corridors linking Black Mountain Regional Park to the San Dieguito River. Curbs and sidewalks included in the project were designed to coordinate with the look and feel of the Del Sur community. Landscaping includes native and drought-tolerant plants irrigated by reclaimed water.

These important road projects were completed five years ahead of schedule thanks to the hard work and cooperation of City staff and our community partners. I also want to thank the residents of these areas for their patience and understanding as we worked to complete and coordinate the opening of these busy roads.